

HCS SCS SB 800 -- POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

SPONSOR: Sater

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Business Attraction and Retention by a vote of 9 to 0. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on Commerce by a vote of 10 to 0.

POLITICAL SUBDIVISION POPULATION (Section 1.100, RSMo)

This bill provides that a political subdivision will always remain under the operation of a law once a law becomes applicable regardless of future population changes.

SUPPLEMENTAL TAX INCREMENT FINANCING FUND (Section 99.845)

This bill exempts property formerly included in an airport noise mitigation program from the statutory limit on the annual amount of new state revenues through the Missouri Supplemental Tax Increment Financing Fund. However, if a redevelopment plan or project was formerly included in an airport noise mitigation program then the funds dispersed through the fund shall not exceed \$4 million in total.

MUSEUM AND CULTURAL DISTRICT (Section 184.815)

This bill provides that any petition to create a museum and cultural district shall be filed within 10 years after the presidential declaration establishing the disaster area.

BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM TAX CREDIT (Section 447.708)

This bill authorizes all demolition costs associated with the redevelopment of a former automobile manufacturing plant in St. Louis County that consists of at least 100 acres and was used primarily for the manufacture of automobiles until 2007 to be eligible for the Brownfield Redevelopment Program tax credit provided that the department of economic development projects that the redevelopment will create at least 250 new jobs, 300 retained jobs, or a combination thereof.

MEET ME IN MISSOURI ACT (Section 620.1620)

This bill establishes the "Meet in Missouri Act." Eligible local convention commissions may submit major convention plans to the Director of the Department of Economic Development. If the plans are approved by the director, then a grant shall be paid from the newly created "Major Economic Convention Event in Missouri Fund" to

the commission. The commission shall hold such funds until the major convention event has occurred and a required report has been submitted to the department.

A major convention plan shall be approved by the director until certain conditions, as described in the bill, are met. These conditions require that the convention event will occur within five years from the application, that the commission is competing for the event against non-Missouri cities, and the economic benefit to the state exceeds the amount of the grant. The amount of any grant shall not exceed 50% of the cost of hosting the event or \$1 million, whichever is less.

At the conclusion of the event, the commission shall issue a report to the director detailing the final amount of convention costs incurred and actual attendance figures. If the final amount of convention costs is less than the amount of the grant, then the bill sets forth the amounts that the commission must refund from the grant amount. If the actual attendance is lower than 85% of the projected attendance, the commission will be required to refund a portion of the grant. If the actual attendance is lower than 25% of the projected attendance, the commission will be required to refund the entire grant. A commission will not be required to refund a portion of the grant if low attendance is caused by a man-made disaster or by a substantial inclement weather event. Any refunded amounts shall be returned to the fund and used for future grants. The provisions of this bill shall sunset six years after the effective date.

This bill is similar to HB 1313 (2015).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill provides an economic development tool that cities may use to compete for out-of-state conventions.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Sater; St. Louis Convention And Visitors Commission; Missouri Association Of Convention & Visitor Bureaus; Bob Bonney, Missouri Restaurant Association; Mayor's Office, City of St. Louis; Missouri Hotel And Lodging Association; Missouri Chamber of Commerce And Industry; The Partnership for Downtown St. Louis; and Monica Evinger, Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.